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REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, and 7-14 are the independent claims.

No claims have been amended.

Claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-5 and 7-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020023132 by Tornabene et al. All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 5 recites, *inter alia*, "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 7 recites, *inter alia*, "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 8 recites, *inter alia*, "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 9 recites, *inter alia*, "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 10 recites, *inter alia*, "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

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Independent claim 11 recites, *inter alia*, "extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 12 recites, *inter alia*, "extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 13 recites, *inter alia*, "extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Independent claim 14 recites, *inter alia*, "extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

However, Applicants respectfully submit that Tornabene et al. does not teach at least the aforementioned features.

Tornabene et al. relates to systems and techniques for sharing information among members of a group, where information about all current members of a group is stored, and instructions are received from at least one current member to invite at least one prospective member to join the group. An invitation is sent to the prospective member. If the prospective member accepts the invitation, the prospective member is added to the current members of the group, and automatically updated services are provided to current members of the group.

In the "Response to Arguments", the Office Action contends that Tornabene et al. at paragraphs 0080-0085 discloses extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel. This contention is respectfully traversed.

Absent from Tornabene et al. is any teaching regarding extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel. Indeed, the cited portion of Tornabene et al. expressly teaches a way to invite and obtain a screen name and address of a person who wishes to join a group. The Office Action acknowledges that Tornabene et al. teaches selecting the screen name of a member to be invited to register for alerts by using mouse clicking. Thus, Tornabene et al. does not teach extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel, as Tornabene et al. merely teaches that a screen name, which is not part of a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel, can be selected using a mouse click. A screen name is not a highlighted file.

In the rejection of independent claim 7, the Office Action again asserts that paragraphs 0048, 0070, 0059-0064, 0070, and 0083 disclose file name extraction means for extracting file

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names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Paragraph 0048 of Tornabene et al. merely teaches a relationship between a server and a client that are connected to a network.

Paragraph 0070 of Tornabene et al. merely teaches that each group member initializes or receives a message from a group member, so that a record of a group communications is created. These messages may be sent/received through an IM server, the Internet, or other communication servers.

Paragraphs 0059-0064 of Tornabene et al. teach only a method to perform an alert notification using an IM server.

Paragraph 0077 of Tornabene et al. merely teaches that group owners can edit settings, such as homepages, edit group titles, edit descriptions, invite new members, change the statuses of group members, remove group members, etc.

Paragraph 0083 of Tornabene et al. merely teaches that a notification is sent to the members of a group informing the group of the statuses of the members.

Thus, Tornabene et al. teaches only a method for sending notification to each member of a group, using an IM server, updating the group members regarding the status of other group members. Applicants respectfully submit that Tornabene et al. neither teaches nor suggests "highlighted file name extraction means for extracting file names that can be registered as highlighted files from a chat character string inputted by a user within a channel".

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 5, and 7-14 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

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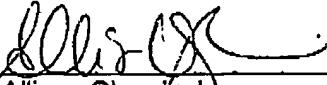
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 18 September 2006

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents,
P.O. Box 4450, Alexandria, VA 22313-4450
on Sept 18, 2006

STAAS & HALSEY

By: SLB

Date: Sept 18, 2006